## Abe and Morris on "Prevention of Cruelty to Railroads"

like it if the Interstate Commerce Commission says we wouldn't charge our style 6144 when we can get as much as \$28 for it from some suckers?"

"That's a difference proposition entirely, Abe," Morris Perlmutter declared "If our customers don't like the way we treat them, Abe, they can go over to Kinger & Klein oder B. Gans and find the same identical article which we carry, Abe; also all such discontented customers has got to do is to quote our prices, and them murderers would only be too glad to undercut us from 10 to 25 per cent. Aber you take a customer of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad and something happens where such a feller must Gott soil huten got to go to New Rochelle, nebich, so he asks the New York, New Haven and Hartford rallroad what is the best price they could make him net cash on a ticket for New

"What happens? It don't make no difference if they was to say 43 cents or \$2.42 the customer must got to pay it, because even if he was to get so sore as to be willing to pay the New York Central and Hudson River railroad \$5 for the self same ticket, y'understand, he wouldn't even have that much satisfaction, on account the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad is the only concern dealing in tickets from the Grand Central Terminal to New Rochelle."

"But suppose the Interstate Commerce Commission says that the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company must not charge more as 35 cents for the ticket when it costs the company 364 cents to deliver the poor "A railroad could easy get put out of

russ," Abe Potash said a think that a railroad company is a "You might almost think that them sion has refused to let the New Jersey, fore," Morris replied, "which if they the stingers and the stung—and for ing to use in the railroad business the and has got all kinds of medals also, few days after the Inter- crook which as soon as the Interstate controlling interest fellers called them- Western and Hackensack River rail- would put into the job of moving sol- my part I don't begrudge a dollar them such good which is poor father state Commerce Commission made its Commerce Commission's back is selves railroad companies just to get road issue any more bonds, right away diers and ammunitions the same ginger reorganization sharks ever got from Red Cross workers. Also I wouldn't would meet him as he was going uprecommendation with regard to the turned would pull a bottle of knockout the sympathy of the public because you the people get a picture in their minds which they put into floating bonds, Abe, me just so long as they will give the be a bit surprised if you and me would stairs with shoes off at 3 a.m. and would railroads. "How would you and me drops from its pants pocket and sand- know as well as I do, Abe, if Schmooel of the New Jersey. Western and Hack-



feller in New Rochelle?" Abe asked. "HE ASKS THE NEW YORK, NEW HAVEN AND HARTFORD RAILROAD COM- stead of soldiers being shifted by rail-PANY WHAT IS THE BEST PRICE THEY COULD MAKE HIM NET CASH road, they wouldn't have no more trouble with country the benefit of their good judg- have hollered some pretty raw language and French warships with the assist-ON A TICKET FOR NEW ROCHELLE."

the Prevention of Cruelty to Railroads, for the Interstate Commerce Commis-dents and their friends." "Well, even if I did think that way y'understand, it ain't the Interstate sion.

retorted, "that ain't no reason why the which holds the controlling interest in his name out of it and all the public ing to run 'em?"

Interstate Commerce Commission should the railroad.

bag the public for their last penny, K. Vanderbilt would be running a rail- ensack River railroad with the dark road under the name of the New Jer- hair and a pale complexion, dressed in "At that the Interstate Commerce sey, Western and Hackensack River black."

"Well whether the public thinks of he railroads as being blondes or brunettes, Mawruss," Abe said, "something has got to be done to put them in shape so as they could anyhow carry soldiers and food."

"Then the government should ought to take them over, Abe," Morris said, been in control of the railroads for the last forty years has had the idee that passengers and freight was only a side line for a railroad business and that the real big money was in floating bond

"A railroad business must got to be financed the same like any other business, Mawruss," Abe protested.

That's just the point, Abe," Morris out of its earnings, y'understand, but with the average railroad, Abe, all the earnings goes to pay the interest on the bonds which was floated to provide facilities on 5th avenue. New York, or Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, and new sixty hosepower rolling stock, including extra tires, cut glass flower And you can take it from me, Abe, if the railroads of a European country would have been using up all their bankers for floating bond issues to support the ruler and his family, y'understand, instead of a war there would

the distance in a few months, because the railroads."

about a railroad, which I don't," Abe Commerce Commission but the man "But if Schmooel K. Vanderbilt keeps the railroads," Abe asked, "who is go- let bygones be bygone."

"Sure I know," Morris agreed, that these reorganization fellers was professional dancer in a cabaret yet, hears is that the commerce commis- "The same people what run them be- "We've got to all work together now- getting in bad because they were try- is now a major in the Bitish army

to-become-of-you lectures, it oser oc curred to either of them that the right answer was a major in the British

"Well," Morris said, "if railroad organizers, shipping clerks and professional dancers could work their way must be some reason why there is such

"Listen" Abe said. "When it comes bankrupt at a meeting of creditors. what, y'understand, and there is the place where our realestaters is going to come in."

"I bet ver!" Morris said feverently. "Because," Abe continued, "you take sand dollars, and a cold water flat on mortgage of one thousand dollars and the taxes of 1895 to 1917, inclusive. of the par value of fifty dollars each. and a 1912 model roadster fully equipped with two oil cans complete, understand



"THAT AIN'T NO REASON WHY THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION SHOULD THINK THAT A RAILROAD shouldbe given to France in exchange COMPANY IS A CROOK WHICH AS SOON AS THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION'S BACK IS TURNED for her claims on the late German col-WOLLD PULL A BOTTLE OF KNOCKOUT DROPS OUT OF HIS PANTS POCKET AND SANDBAG THE PUBLIC ony of Chu Chin Chow and six sub-FOR THEIR LAST PENNY, YUNDERSTAND."

what's the difference if the public is order that he couldn't market no more ed railroads with up-to-date equip- what a change the war has made in could." Morris waved his hand impatiently. going to get sandbagged, whether the of them first refunding consolidated 5 ment, if the money which ought to have "Honestly, Abe," he said, "the way knockout drops is in the pants pocket per cent convertible bond shecause he paid for the double tracks and the upyou talk, you would think that a rail. of the railroad company or of the feller had already soaked the public with to-date equipment has gone to buy awake nights scheming, y'understand, away in stocks oder not. Mawruss, be- them light weights on us to Cohen this war to book canvassers and life road company had lost its husband and which controls the railroad company? three times as many bonds as the en- some of the finest private residences in and they are now tossing around on cause them fellers is going to be a big Brothers, Portland, Instead of Cohen insurance agents?" would be perfectly satisfied if it could In fact, Abe, if anybody should ought tire railroad property was worth, y'un- America and picture collections which break even each week so as the family to be called down by some of them con- derstand, the public would say that is just as good as the Metropolitan Mu- of \$1 a year, planning how they can year or so," Abe said. "In fact, Maw- down till half-past eight," Morris ob- think of to put them fellers," Abe said. think of to put them reliers. Acc said could live on what the two older boys, servative New York papers which has Schmooel K. Vanderbilt should ought seum of Art excepting nobody could get their ex-confederates to loosen up russ, the way I figure it, there's been served, "he must have been at the very after a moment of consideration, "and aged fourteen and sixteen, could bring sort of made themselves Societies for to go to jail for such a thing, and good look at them but a few railroad presithe good things about this war, Maw- misfits and seconds in peace because "That's nothing," Abe said, "I seen "But if the government takes over russ; it gives everybody a chance to they was designed and manufactured it in the paper the other day a case (Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

"All right," said the lieutenant, "if you can't sign the pay roll you can't be paid." It is hardly necessary to add

ment, because if those fellers couldn't in firing a first-class a-number-one ance of American destroyers, underthe distance in a lew months, occause the distance in a lew months, occause the war and everything. Mawruss, a Commission wouldn't be so far out of Railroad Company, and the Interstate a government couldn't shift soldiers and the Interstate a government

raffroad company don't have too easy the way, Abe," Morris said, "because Commerce Commission was to issue an ammunition in a hurry on double track-

## American Indians Loyal to the Stars and Stripes

